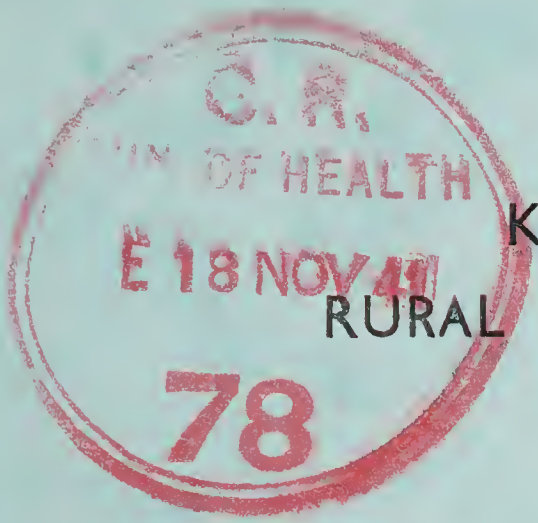


LIBRARY



KIVETON PARK
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.




ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health
for the Year 1940

J. M. WATT, M.D., D.R.C.O.G., D.C.H., D.P.H.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29538257>

KIVETON PARK
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL --- REPORT ---

of the

Medical Officer of Health
for the Year 1940

J. M. WATT, M.D., D.R.C.O.G., D.C.H., D.P.H.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

L. A. RATCLIFFE, PRINTER, ROTHERHAM

Kibeton Park Rural District Council.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector for the year ending 31st December, 1940

VITAL STATISTICS

Population.

The population of Kiveton Park Rural District in 1940 was 15,540, according to the estimate of the Registrar General. This is much smaller than the estimated population of previous years. In 1939, for example, the population was given as 16,420 and in 1938, 16,320. The census figure in 1931 was 17,034:

Births.

The number of live births registered in Kiveton Park Rural District in 1940 was the largest for the past nine years, and the birth-rate, calculated upon a population of 15,540, was the highest for eleven years. There were 299 births, compared with 268 in 1939 and 264 in 1938. The birth-rate was 19.0 per thousand of the population, compared with 16.3 per thousand in 1939, and with 14.6 per thousand for England and Wales.

There were 14 illegitimate births compared with 7 in 1939 and 10 in 1938.

The number of still births registered was 14, none of which were illegitimate. There were 9 still births in 1939.

Infantile Death Rate.

There were 12 deaths of children under one year of age. One of these infants was an illegitimate child. The infantile mortality rate of 40 per thousand births was the second lowest recorded in the Kiveton Park Rural District. The lowest infantile mortality rate was that of 1939, when the rate was 33 per thousand births.

Death Rate.

The death rate for England and Wales rose from 12.1 per thousand of the population in 1939 to 14.3 per thousand of the population in 1940. A similar increase occurred at Kiveton Park, where the standardised death rate for 1940 was 12 per thousand, compared with 10.1 per thousand in 1939.

The total number of deaths in 1940 was 174. This is the largest number registered since 1931. The crude death rate was 11.19 per thousand. To standardise this rate according to the age and sex constitution of the population, the Registrar General supplied an Areal Comparability Factor of 1.11. In order to trace the causes of the increase in the death-rate a series of statistical tables are included in this report.

The first table gives a comparison between the vital statistics of Kiveton Park Rural District and those of England and Wales :—

TABLE I.

	Kiveton Park Rural District	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	148 smaller Towns Pop. 25,000 —50,000 at 1931 census	London adminis- trative County
Live Births ...	RATES 19.0	PER 1,000 14.6	CIVILIAN 16.0	POPULATION 15.7	13.7
Still Births ...	0.9	0.55	0.64	0.55	0.44
DEATHS : All causes ...	12.4	14.3	15.8	12.8	17.8
Whooping cough	0.0	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00
Diphtheria ...	0.0	0.06	0.07	0.05	0.01
Influenza ...	0.19	0.32	0.29	0.30	0.18
Measles ...	0.0	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01

RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.

Deaths under 1 year of age ...	40	55	61	54	50
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	0.0	4.6	5.9	4.4	5.8

The table shows that the birth-rate in Kiveton Park Rural District was higher, and all the death rates were lower than the corresponding rates for England and Wales.

The next table gives the actual numbers of births and deaths registered in the district for the past seventeen years, and the birth and death rates calculated upon the estimated population for each year.

TABLE II.

Year	Estimated Population	Number of Births	Birth Rate	Number of Deaths	Crude Death Rate	Number of Infant Deaths	Infantile Mortality
1940	15,540	299	19.0	174	11.19	12	40.0
1939	16,420	268	16.3	138	8.45	9	33.0
1938	16,320	264	16.18	147	9.0	11	40.0
1937	16,290	245	15.04	168	10.3	13	53.1
1936	16,470	249	15.1	161	9.8	17	68.3
1935	16,570	252	15.2	141	8.5	15	59.5
1934	16,620	248	14.9	127	7.6	10	40.3
1933	16,760	248	14.8	158	9.4	18	73.0
1932	16,850	261	15.4	160	9.4	26	99.0
1931	17,170	306	17.8	174	10.0	23	75.0
1930	17,730	314	17.7	142	8.0	23	73.0
1929	17,730	346	19.5	159	8.9	23	66.4
1928	17,930	359	20.0	140	7.8	22	60.0
1927	17,550	333	18.8	147	8.3	26	78.7
1926	17,460	381	21.8	157	8.9	24	62.9
1925	16,700	388	23.3	164	9.8	22	56.9
1924	16,470	389	23.6	157	9.5	24	61.6

This table shows how the birth-rate fell steadily year by year until 1933. This was followed by a gradual rise in births, until in 1940 the birth-rate of 1929 was again reached. The death rate varied from year to year between the low rates of 8 and 10 per thousand of the population. In 1940 there was a rise in the death rate to 11.19, which is outside the variations experienced in the past sixteen years.

The various factors which have influenced the death rate are dealt with in the tables which follow.

The table below gives the parish distribution of the deaths, together with the estimated population of the eleven parishes in the Kiveton Park Rural District for 1940.

TABLE III.

Parish	Number of Deaths 1940	Percentage Total Deaths	Estimated Population	Percentage Total Population
Anston	31	18	2,092	13.4
Dinnington ...	77	44	6,772	44.0
Firbeck	3	2	158	1.0
Gildingwells ...	—	—	64	0.4
Harthill - with - Woodall ...	15	9	1,231	8.0
Letwell	1	1	63	0.4
St. John's-with- Throapham ...	2	1	96	0.6
Thorpe Salvin ...	2	1	309	2.0
Todwick	2	1	269	1.7
Wales	37	21	4,094	26.0
Woodsetts ...	4	2	392	2.5
Percentages given to the nearest numeral as far as possible.				
Total	174	100	15,540	100

This table shows that there was a close association between the population in the various parishes and the proportion of deaths recorded.

The following table gives the number of deaths registered each month during 1940.

TABLE IV.						
Month						Number of deaths registered
January	...	...	...	...	...	21
February	...	...	...	...	...	16
March	...	...	...	...	...	19
April	...	...	...	...	...	14
May	...	...	...	...	...	14
June	...	...	...	...	...	11
July	...	...	...	...	...	17
August	...	...	...	...	...	14
September	...	...	...	...	...	11
October	...	...	...	...	...	14
November	...	...	...	...	...	9
December	...	...	...	...	...	14

There were more deaths during the severe weather in January, February and March, but there was no increase in deaths during the months when air-raids were frequent.

Age Distribution of Deaths.

TABLE V.

Age Group	1940	1939	1938	1937
Under 1 year 	12	9	11	13
1— 5 years 	2	1	6	5
5—15 years 	1	3	7	5
15—25 years 	4	4	4	4
25—35 years 	5	9	6	13
35—45 years 	13	6	4	10
45—60 years 	38	24	26	25
60—70 years 	48	31	36	34
70 and over 	51	51	47	59
Total 	174	138	147	168

The death rates among the younger sections of the population were very low. The increase in the death rate was limited to age groups over 35 years of age, and particularly to ages over 45 years of age.

The table below gives the causes of death in detail :—

TABLE VI.

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	5	4	9
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	2	—	2
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	2	2
Syphilitic Diseases	1	—	1
Influenza	1	2	3
Cancer	12	6	18
Diabetes	1	—	1
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	6	10	16
Heart diseases	17	22	39
Other Diseases of Circulatory System ...	4	1	5
Bronchitis	8	6	14
Pneumonia	4	4	8
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	1	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	1	—	1
Appendicitis... ..	2	2	4
Other Digestive Diseases	2	—	2
Nephritis	1	1	2
Maternal Causes	—	1	1
Premature Birth	2	—	2
Congenital Malformations, etc.	3	1	4
Suicide	2	—	2
Other violent causes	11	—	11
All other causes	11	14	25
Total	97	77	174

The table which follows gives the number of deaths from the most important diseases for the past ten years :—

Principal Causes of Death.

TABLE VII.

Disease	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931
Heart disease ...	39	41	34	44	34	31	22	34	33	41
Cerebral Hæmorrhage and other circulatory diseases ...	21	19	18	14	10	20	6	14	9	7
Cancer ...	18	19	19	12	22	10	11	20	23	13
Bronchitis ...	14	—	3	4	6	—	6	2	3	3
Pneumonia ...	8	4	7	13	17	2	6	13	10	17
Other Respiratory diseases ...	2	1	2	—	—	2	—	3	1	1
Tuberculosis ...	11	3	8	6	8	9	7	7	10	10
Influenza ...	3	1	—	10	2	2	1	7	9	5
Suicide ...	2	1	—	1	1	—	5	1	2	14
Other violence ...	11	10	9	10	13	6	5	9	7	
Epidemic diseases	2	—	6	3	5	6	6	1	3	5

The number of deaths from chest infections was higher than usual. This was not due to an influenza epidemic. There was an increase in deaths from circulatory diseases and cerebral hæmorrhage.

SUMMARY.

An interpretation of the vital statistics of 1940 is more difficult than usual because of changes in the population due to the war. Statistics for the younger half of the population were excellent with a low infantile mortality rate and a low death rate from epidemic diseases, but there was an increase in the number of deaths in persons over 35 years of age, due to chest infections and to circulatory diseases.

Deaths were evenly distributed in the various parishes. The birth-rate and death-rate compared favourably with those of England and Wales. The persistent increase in births which has been evident since 1934 reached a new high level in 1940.

The statistics for 1940 have undoubtedly been influenced by war conditions.

Tuberculosis.

TABLE VIII.

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
Tuberculosis cases on Register, 31st December, 1939 ...	106	29	135
Cases removed from Register during 1940	33	11	44
Deaths from Tuberculosis, 1939	3	0	3
Deaths from Tuberculosis, 1940	9	2	11
Tuberculosis Notifications, 1939	7	6	13
Tuberculosis Notifications, 1940	8	4	12
Tuberculosis cases on Register at 31st December, 1940 ...	81	22	103

The number of cases of tuberculosis notified each year has shown a remarkable reduction since 1918. The number of deaths from tuberculosis has also steadily declined. The table on tuberculosis will deserve particular attention while the war lasts, as an increase in the tuberculosis rate indicates a deterioration in the health of the population.

Notifiable Diseases.

TABLE IX.

Disease	Cases Notified		Cases Admitted to the Isolation Hospital		Total Deaths	
	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939
Scarlet Fever ...	43	46	43	44	—	—
Diphtheria	35	34	35	34	—	—
Typhoid	1	—	1	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	19	—	19	—	2	—
Polio-myelitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	—	1	—	—	—
Erysipelas	7	7	—	—	—	—
Measles	489	—	4	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	5	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	7	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	34	35	3	8	8	4
Respiratory Tuberculosis	8	7	—	—	9	3
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	4	6	—	—	2	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	2	1	2	—	—

Kiveton Park Rural District shared in nation wide epidemics of measles and cerebro-spinal fever during 1940. Measles was particularly prevalent in November and December, but the disease was of a mild type and there were no deaths.

The country has been comparatively free of cerebro-spinal fever since the last war. Fortunately the cases seen in 1940 were of a milder type and new methods of treatment were particularly successful. There were 19 cases and 2 deaths in 1940 compared with death rates of 80 per cent. in previous epidemics.

Area Distribution of Infectious Diseases.

TABLE X.

Parish	Number of Cases							
	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Cere- bro- spinal Fever	Pneu- monia	Measles	Whoop- ing Cough	Resp. Tuber- culosis	Other Forms of Tuber- culosis
Anston ...	1	1	3	3	62	1	4	2
Dinnington	7	21	10	12	215	4	2	1
Firbeck ...	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Gildingwells	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harthill ...	1	2	0	6	1	0	1	1
Letwell ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
St. John's with Thro- apham ...	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Thorpe Sal- vin ...	1	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
Todwick ...	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Wales ...	29	11	6	13	175	0	1	0
Woodsetts	0	0	0	0	28	0	0	0
Total ...	43	35	19	34	489	5	8	4

Many of the measles cases did not receive medical attention and, in consequence, were not notified.

There was no undue prevalence of any notifiable disease in any parish, apart from scarlet fever and pneumonia which were more frequently notified from Wales parish than from other parishes.

Diphtheria Immunisations.

During 1940, 84 children received a full course of protective treatment against diphtheria. 2 children were partially immunised. Practically all these children received treatment in the schools from the Medical Officer of Health.

Scabies.

Owing to the widespread prevalence of scabies in the area a treatment centre was set up at Swallownest Isolation Hospital for the use of the three constituent Authorities, Kiveton Park Rural District Council, Rotherham Rural District Council and Maltby Urban District Council. This centre was opened in October 1940, and 12 cases from Kiveton Park received treatment before the end of the year. Patients were conveyed to the Hospital by ambulance. They were given baths in the discharge block and their clothing was disinfected by steam. The patients were given benzyl benzoate applications and were returned home by ambulance.

Owing to the large number of scabies cases in the area, treatment was mainly restricted to large families or to families with inadequate washing and bathing facilities.

Nether Haugh Hostel.

A hostel was opened at Nether Haugh, near Greasborough, Rotherham, in November, 1940, for evacuee children with behaviour difficulties or with skin infections or illnesses which made them unsuitable for ordinary billets. 5 children from Kiveton Park Rural District were admitted before the end of the year. These children were all members of one family and were suffering from vermin and scabies.

The following particulars have been supplied by Mr. L. B. Goddard, Sanitary and Housing Inspector :—

Nuisance Inspections.

Total number of inspections made in 1940 for nuisances	712
Nuisances found in 1940	450
Nuisances in hand, end of 1939	8
Total requiring abatement	458
Abated during 1940	452
Notices served—Informal	269
Notices served—Statutory	21
Informal Notices complied with	261
Statutory Notices complied with	21

Regulated Buildings, Trades, etc., in District.					Number of Inspections.
Common Lodging Houses...	...	1	...	...	12
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	6	...	...	18
Offensive Trades	...	2	...	...	28

Drainage and Sewerage.

Number of houses not connected to sewers	330
--	-----	-----	-----

Closet Accommodation.

Number of Privies with open middens	...	...	25
Number of Privies with covered middens	...	...	215
Number of Privies reconstructed as W.C.'s	...	...	1
Number of additional Closets provided for old property	...	...	2
Number of Closets constructed for new houses	...	...	6

Scavenging.

Total cost of collection and disposal of refuse	£3,292 13s. 0d.
---	-----------------

Water Supply.

Number of dwelling houses on public supply	...	4,379
Number of chemical examinations	...	2
Number of bacteriological examinations	...	2
Results	...	All good

Milk Supply.

Number of milk samples taken for analysis	...	6
Number found adulterated	...	None
Diseases attributed to milk during 1940	...	None
Number of cowkeepers in district	...	69
Total number of cowsheds	...	113
Number of milk cows	...	879
Number of cowshed inspections	...	329
Number of retail milk sellers registered	...	51

Milk (Special Designations) Orders 1936 and 1938.

Number of licences for the production of "Tuberculin					
Tested " milk	...	...	...	...	1
" Accredited " milk	...	...	...	...	5

Bakehouses.

Number of bakehouses in district	...	5
Total inspections	...	21

